

Issue Brief – Additional Waiver Services

DIVISION OF SERVICES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

NUMBER DHS-07-12

WAIVER SERVICES

The Division of Services for People with Disabilities (DSPD) is requesting funding to provide additional services under the three Medicaid waiver programs they administer. DSPD is requesting an appropriation of \$1,911,300 with \$599,800 from General Funds and \$1,311,500 from federal Medicaid funds for FY 2007.

OBJECTIVE

DSPD strives to enhance the quality of life for individuals with disabilities and their families through services that allow them to remain in the least restrictive environment possible.

DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

DSPD under the State Medicaid Plan has three waiver programs known as the Home and Community-Based Services Waivers: 1) Mentally Retarded/Related Conditions (MR/RC) Waiver; 2) Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Waiver; and 3) Physical Disability Waiver. Waiver programs are exceptions to the Medicaid plan which states can opt for to provide services that are less expensive or cost neutral. Once an individual is accepted in the waiver program, DSPD is required to provide additional services as needed. If the Division cannot meet the health and safety needs of the clients already in the waiver program, the results could be a loss of Federal Financial Participation (FFP) in the amount of \$76 million.

The waiver programs under DSPD provide over 100 services to allow individuals to remain in less restrictive environments like their home, group homes, or assisted living apartments rather than institutions. Some of the services provided are respite care, supported employment, behavior consultant, day services (day care), transportation, companion services, and equipment or modifications for the home or vehicle like ramps, lifts, etc. DSPD is projecting 151 individuals already in service will need 212 additional services in FY 2007 as shown in the following table:

DSPD Estimate of Additional Waiver Services for FY 2007		
	Number of Individuals	Number of Services
Mental Retardation/Related Conditions	149	210
Acquired Brain Injury	2	2
Physical Disability	0	0
Total	151	212

DSPD statutorily has non-lapsing authority (UCA 62A-5-102 (7)). In the past, DSPD has used the non-lapsing funds for the Home and Community Based Waiver Program and for emergency services. For FY 2007, they are projecting that there will not be

enough carry-forward funds for the waiver programs to cover the additional expenditures for persons already in the waiver programs. However, they are projecting attrition savings of almost \$1.8 million for individuals which will permanently leave the waiver program because of death, moving out of state, etc. The following table shows the total estimate of funding by revenue sources DSPD will need for the waiver program for FY 2007:

FY 2007 Estimate of DSPD Waiver Services Costs			
	General Fund	Title XIX Medicaid	Total Funding
FY 2007 Estimated Expenditures	\$1,158,000	\$2,532,000	\$3,690,000
Less: FY 2007 Attrition Savings	(558,200)	(1,220,500)	(1,778,700)
Total	\$599,800	\$1,311,500	\$1,911,300

RECOMMENDATION

It is the recommendation of the Analyst that there be an appropriation of \$1,911,300 with \$599,800 from General Funds and \$1,311,500 from federal Medicaid funds for FY 2007 for the Division of Services for People with Disabilities' additional waiver services.